



CRS Parent Connection

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services



Volume 15, Number 3

Summer 2007

“What’s Happening,” On The Air With CRS

Members of the Children’s Rehabilitation Service State Office staff went “on the air” recently to promote the division and its services to Montgomery area residents.

Assistant Commissioner Melinda Davis, State Parent Consultant Susan Colburn, and CRS parent Terri Shaw were guests on “What’s Happening with Leslie Bailey” on WACV, an AM station in the Capital City. The three were joined by ADRS Human Resource Development Director Kim Boswell, who provided listeners with an overview of the department.

Susan said the show — hosted by popular Montgomery radio personality/business owner Leslie Bailey — was a wonderful opportunity to talk in depth



Kim Boswell (center) speaks with Leslie on “What’s Happening” as Susan Colburn (left) and Melinda Davis (right) listen

about CRS and the impact that it has on the lives of children and families.

“One of the best ways to get the word out about CRS is through parents like Terri who can share their personal experiences of raising a child with special needs,” Susan said. “It was great that we had a platform that let Terri tell her story.”

The CRS show was one in a series of shows about the department and its services. It began with a show highlighting Alabama’s Early Intervention System (EI) that included EI Coordinator Betsy Prince and parent Shana James.

The next show in the series, scheduled for late June, will spotlight transition services and feature Kim McLaughlin, coordinator of CRS transition services, her Vocational Rehabilitation Service counterpart Linda Hames, VRS Transition Counselor Tina Dortch and a transition consumer. Future shows will focus on VRS general services, VRS Employer Services, VRS Blind/Deaf Services, VRS services for older Alabamians with vision loss, and the State of Alabama Independent Living (SAIL)/Homebound Service.

Kathleen McGehee
Public Information Manager
Alabama Department of
Rehabilitation Services



CRS Parent, Terri Shaw (center), tells listeners of her experiences with CRS

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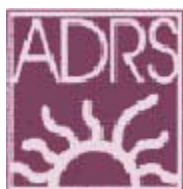
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Parent Connection is a complimentary newsletter published by Children's Rehabilitation Service for families of children with special health care needs. The goal of this newsletter is to increase communication and share information about children with special health care needs and their families. The newsletter reflects a family-centered theme throughout and serves as a forum for family members to share information, thoughts, feelings, concerns, etc. Nothing printed or implied in this publication constitutes an endorsement by the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services.

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From the Director's Chair



Hello Parents,

Summer time is here and I hope we all get lots of rain soon! Budget time is also here and all of ADRS, including the State Office and CRS districts are gearing up to prepare for it! By now, you probably have heard that the entire department received our full request from the governor and legislature during the 2007 regular session. Thanks to all of you for helping to make this happen! Please remember to thank our legislators and the governor as you see them, or you may even consider writing a note of thanks to them.

This 2007 legislative session also confirmed a new term for our ADRS board chairwoman, Crickett Floyd, as well as a new ADRS board member, Lt. Col. Jimmie Varnado of Montgomery, a vice president at Sterling Bank. We appreciate the strong support we receive from all of our board members.

In the coming months, you will be hearing about some very exciting developments in CRS regarding care coordination, evaluation clinics and other initiatives. We have been very busy envisioning the future of CRS to improve the services provided to you and to increase our services so more children with special health care needs and their families can be served. We look forward to your involvement as we continue the ADRS mission "to enable Alabama's children and adults with disabilities to achieve their maximum potential."

Melinda Davis, Assistant Commissioner
Children's Rehabilitation Service

Teen Transition Expos

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| September 18, 2007..... | Road Map to Transition, Anniston
Contact: Sandra Hazzard, (256) 235-3050 |
| September 25, 2007..... | Teen Transition Expo, Muscle Shoals
Contact: Sharon Curry, (256) 381-1212 |
| October 11, 2007..... | Transition Expo, Lakeshore Foundation
Birmingham; 1:00 -7:00 p.m
Contact: Sharon Hammer, (205) 290-4550 |
| October 29-30, 2007..... | Teen Expo; Huntsville,
Contact: Rita Cobbs, (256) 650-1701 |

Access Equals Success...the system works!

More than 300 people attended a very special birthday celebration April 24 when the Bureau of Children's Health Insurance celebrated its 10-year anniversary with style on the steps of the State Capitol. The event concluded with a round of "Happy Birthday" in celebration of the 10 years and 350,000 birthdays that have been enjoyed to date by children enrolled in the program.

ALL Kids has provided comprehensive healthcare coverage to nearly 186,000 children, making a profound contribution toward reducing the number of uninsured children in the state. While the national child uninsured rate is currently 11.5 percent, Alabama's rate has continually declined from 15 percent prior to *ALL Kids* to the current 7.2 percent, well under the national average.

Since its inception, it has been demonstrated that children enrolled in *ALL Kids* have better access to healthcare and higher usage rates of healthcare coverage benefits. Furthermore, since *ALL Kids* began, our state has experienced many significant improvements in the overall condition of children's access to healthcare. Children enrolled in *ALL Kids*:

- are receiving medical care more often
- are receiving more frequent dental and vision care
- are more likely to have a medical home when they have health care coverage
- are using the emergency room less often.

These children are healthier, happier children who have better school attendance and probably make better grades. Why? Because they are now getting well child check-



ups, immunizations, vision and dental screenings, and if they do get sick their parents can afford to take them to the doctor.

Thousands of parents in Alabama work (make too much money to qualify for Medicaid), but their jobs do not provide dependent health insurance coverage, or it is too expensive for the family to afford. The *ALL Kids* Children's Health Insurance Program was designed to close this gap by providing low-cost health insurance to working families.

Many families in Alabama have yet to hear of this program or if they have, don't believe their children would be eligible. For instance, families don't know that a family of four can earn \$41,300 or more a year and still qualify for *ALL Kids*.

When families get health insurance for their children, they gain peace of mind, knowing that with regular check-ups their children will stay healthier. By preventing serious



David Savage and Susan Colburn, third and fourth from the left, represented CRS at the *ALL Kids* birthday celebration on the steps of the State Capitol.

illnesses, overall family health costs will be lower, and when children do need to go to the doctor they can afford to take them. This is especially important for parents if a child has a special health care need. Insurance coverage can eliminate the financial stress commonly associated with obtaining medical care. There are never any co-pays for preventive services.

In Alabama, *ALL Kids*, SOBRA Medicaid and the Alabama Child Caring Program have a joint application form. This eases the burden on the family in determining which program they qualify for. The joint application allows one application to be considered for all three available child health insurance programs.

If approved, 12 months of continuous health insurance coverage begins on the first day of the month after the application is received. Benefits provided by *ALL Kids* include well child check-ups and immunizations, sick child doctor visits, prescriptions, vision and

(Continued on p.7)

FAMILY VOICES

Bright Futures for Families



Transitions – Growing Up and Away

Besides starting out a new school year, for many families this will be a time to get ready to launch a son or daughter into the next phase of life after high school. Think with your teen what they want to accomplish. The excitement and uncertainty your child may be feeling about these next steps may be mirrored in your own feelings of pride, concern and maybe even relief. Growth and change affect everyone!



Listen to your son or daughter's hopes and ambitions. Some are possible; some are exploration, but you will hear clues to your child's dreams.

Help your teen consider next possibilities — additional training, college, work, military or travel, and available resources. Who can give advice — high school counselors, other adults you know...?

Learn how your teen hopes to achieve these next steps. Help your teen think about how to handle both opportunities and setbacks.

Consider best ways to manage problems or special needs your child may have. What strategies have worked that could be applied to new situations? Ensure your child has as much say as possible over future plans. If your son or daughter will be “aging out” of some services or programs, what new

resources might be available? See the *Healthy and Ready to Work* website for information and strategies at www.hrtw.org.

Discuss with your teen how he/she will manage new and changing relationships with family and friends. While teens are establishing their own identities and separating some from family, help them think through new relationships with you and old friends, and ways to maintain contact.

Besides the big dreams of life, ensure that your son or daughter has some of the practicalities down, especially if they'll be moving out of the house — doing laundry, budgeting, handling credit cards and bills, healthy food shopping and preparation (something in addition to the microwave!), and managing time and new freedom.



Consider ways to move into a more adult relationship with your son or daughter — assuming new roles and tasks or easing up on family rules, for example.

Ensure your teen's health care is updated; learn about and plan for health care transitions, and check health insurance coverage. For many at this stage, health insurance becomes problematic. Encourage your son or daughter to be current with all health care, dental check-ups and

immunizations. Learn whether your teen will still be covered on your policies, or the best options to ensure continuous coverage.

This may also be a good time to plan a transition from pediatric to adult caregivers. Encourage healthy living: physical exercise, responsible sexual behavior, avoidance of alcohol, drugs and tobacco — reinforce all those important messages from earlier years.

Help your teen develop health approaches to managing the mental health of daily life — handling stress, strategies to consider when disagreements occur or disappointment looms.

Love, support and encourage your child at this and all stages of life. Let your son or daughter know you'll be there, emotionally if not always in person. Let them know what they can rely on you for.

Finally, find support for yourself as a parent as you navigate new roles with your “becoming-adult children” and your emptying nest.

For more information see the Family Voices Bright Futures website at www.brightfuturesforfamilies.org.



For information about Family Voices, please contact the Alabama state coordinators, Susan Colburn (334) 613-2884, susan.colburn@rehab.alabama.gov or Jerry Oveson (251) 438-1609, oveson@bellsouth.net.



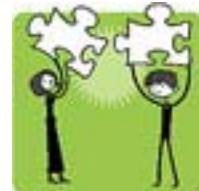
Let's YAC About It

Planning for Success

Planning for transition beyond high school can be a confusing puzzle at times. Beginning early while still in school is important to discover career goals and to plan steps for reaching your goals. These are some resources that can help you turn your puzzle into a picture for success.

Making It Happen in College and Beyond by Henry Reiff: This book gives concrete advice to students with learning disabilities, parents and counselors about how to select and gain acceptance to college, and how to succeed once the student is enrolled. You can order the book at www.nprinc.com/spec_edu.

Preparing for College: An Online Tutorial: This web page is from the DO-IT (Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking and Technology) program at the University of Washington. Here you will find internet resources for college-bound teens with disabilities, including tools for preparing for college, discovering your learning style, choosing a major and a college or university, and considering what accommodations you might need and how to get them. www.washington.edu/doi



DO-IT Knowledge Base: The DO-IT program at the University of Washington has created a comprehensive web-based database containing over 300 articles. You can find answers to questions about assistive technology, accessible information technology, college and career transition, and many other topics. www.washington.edu/doi

Journey to Success: This website at www.csun.edu/cod includes suggestions for career exploration activities for college students with disabilities. From the web page, navigate to student services and you will see Journey to Success.

Resources provided by Linda Hames, State Transition Coordinator

OPELIKA TEEN TRANSITION EXPO

More than 200 students, teachers and parents attended the Teen Transition Expo held April 30, 2007 in Opelika. The Opelika CRS office partnered with Vocational Rehab and area job coaches to provide information concerning life after high school for students with special needs. Special guests included Trisston Wright, Miss Wheelchair Alabama, and Dr. Karen Rabren, director of Auburn University's Transition Institute. A youth panel spoke to the group concerning challenges they have faced in transitioning from high school to college and gave tips to help ease the stress.



Trisston Wright (right), Miss Wheelchair Alabama, visits with Mandy Jennings



Lily Pike (left) waits with a friend for the event to begin

Numerous vendors provided information on activities, accommodations and organizations available in the community. The Expo offered something for everyone. I urge everyone to attend their local Expo. Check with your local CRS office for expo dates. Many asked in anticipation would there be another one next year. Hopefully this can become a yearly event.

Mandy Jennings, Parent Consultant
Opelika CRS

Transition Education and Making Memories

In life we go through many transitions, changes, phases and stages. We change from infant to toddler, adolescent and then to adulthood. We transition from daycare to elementary school, middle school, high school and some to college. We will make several transitions in our lifetime, but the one we will remember most is from high school. Our son, Ryan, graduated in May from Eufaula High School with the Alabama Occupational Diploma (AOD). This important transition has been a team effort.

As a young child, Ryan was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and a learning disability. At the age of 14 we started talking about transition — his hopes and dreams, what he wanted to fulfill in life. He stated he wanted to have his own business, a hot dog stand, but as time passed he stopped talking of that dream. Instead he set his eyes on working for the Eufaula Housing Authority, and in late spring 2004 Ryan applied for a summer job, only to discover the jobs had been filled. He was disheartened but more determined than ever to work there. Whenever we would pass by the Housing Authority Office, he would say, “I’m going to work there, they will have a job for me.”

In March 2005 he was determined to be hired. He went by the office to inquire about a job and was told they were not accepting applications at this time, to come back. Little did they know Ryan would go by almost weekly. He finally had an interview a week before we were to leave on vacation. Before we left he called to see if he was hired only to be told that he wasn’t. When we returned from vacation he had several messages to call the Housing Authority. It turned out he was hired



Ryan (second from the right) is shown with some of the men on his team at the Eufaula Housing Authority. Ryan will continue working at the Housing Authority after graduation.

after all. He was hired again the next summer.

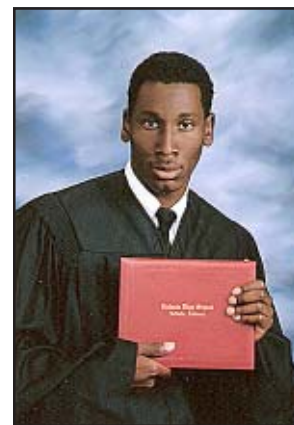
Since working at the Housing Authority we have seen a big change in Ryan’s self-esteem. My father, Ryan’s grandfather, passed in July 2006. He and Ryan were very close and he had been Ryan’s biggest cheerleader. After his passing the men at the Housing Authority took him under their wing, and now they are his biggest cheering squad. Here are some of the things they say about Ryan. “He’s a hard worker. He has good work ethics. He never gives up, and he can reach any goal he sets for himself. We’re proud of him working and going to school. He really loves music, THE DRUMS!!”

During his senior year, Ryan needed work hours to receive the AOD. Not sure which direction to take, I spoke with Jennifer Robinson, VR counselor in Dothan. She encouraged me to have Ryan speak with his supervisor, Jeff Mira, at the Housing Authority. Mr. Mira was very eager to help. To work

out scheduling and transportation, we turned to Jaylynn Harris, CRS social worker in Dothan; Ryan’s job coach, Margaret Hall, and representatives from Eufaula High School. Many different people made transition work for Ryan. Without their help and support this would not have been possible. Transition truly takes a team to make it work. I thank God for a team like this.

Oh yeah, Ryan still plans to open that hot dog stand.

Vonda Reeves, Parent Consultant
Dothan CRS



**Ryan, Eufaula High School,
Class of 2007**

(All Kids continued from p. 3)

dental care, hospital, and physician services. Medical benefit coverage is provided statewide by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama and uses their preferred provider networks. Mental health and substance abuse services are provided by United Behavioral Health.

Eligibility for *ALL Kids* is based in part on family size and income. Other eligibility requirements for children and

teens include being a U.S. citizen and an Alabama resident, not residing in an institution, and not eligible for nor enrolled in Medicaid, nor eligible for dependent coverage under any of the state employee health insurance plans.

For more information, the *ALL Kids* Children's Health Insurance Program can be reached toll-free by calling 1-888-373-KIDS (5437). Se habla Espanol. Information is also available from the Alabama Department of Public Health website at

<http://www.adph.org/allkids> where applications in both English and Spanish can be downloaded and printed. Applications can also be picked up at county health departments and many other health and community agencies, including your local CRS office.

Knoxye Williams
Alabama Department of Public Health

EAST ALABAMA CHALLENGER LEAGUE

Through the vision and direction of Todd and Scarlett Sheils, the Challenger League has offered a chance for children with special needs of east Alabama to play baseball. The league has grown to four teams, with over 50 children involved this year. The games are played on a regular field at West Ridge Park in Opelika, with accommodations made for different abilities. Each game consists of two innings — everyone bats and scores each inning. No score is kept — everyone wins!! It is priceless to see the children having so much fun. The league has an opening day where all the players' names are announced as they line up on the field, and the National Anthem is played. The season ends with a trophy ceremony and ice cream.

Thank you to all the players, helpers, parents, coaches and friends who make this so much fun. A very special thank you to Todd and Scarlett for starting the Challenger League in our area.



Matt Strozier rounds the bases

Mandy Jennings, Parent Consultant
Opelika CRS



Brett Chappell gets some assistance from his big brother Jamie

Hannah Cooley and her mom, Sandy wait for some action in the outfield

Birmingham/Homewood Easter Egg Hunt

The Central Alabama Early Intervention Council and Children's Rehabilitation Service of Birmingham and Homewood hosted their 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Birmingham Zoo Lodge on March 25. The highlight of the hunt was the Easter Bunny hopping in to hide Easter eggs for the more than 100 guests. Everyone enjoyed fun activities, light refreshments and prizes donated by local businesses.

Tammy Moore, Parent Consultant
Homewood CRS



"Shall I eat this beautiful egg
or put it in my basket?"



The eager participants get their directions before
beginning the Easter Egg Hunt

A Dreamy Awesome Day

Dreams on Wings is just that...DREAMY. On Saturday, May 5 our family enjoyed a full day of fun with clowns, magicians, face painting, games, arts and crafts, food (yummy hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, drinks and ice cream), limo rides, and last but not least FLYING! We have enjoyed Dreams on Wings for the past four years and have flown in several different airplanes, even a helicopter. This year we flew to the Talladega Superspeedway from Birmingham where we were able to see cars going around the track — AWESOME! Through the generosity of numerous individuals and organizations, the Dreams on Wings program provides all of these things to families of children who are faced with serious illness. If you are interested in participating, either as a volunteer or as a guest, you can contact a Dreams on Wings volunteer at (205) 349-5466.

Tammy Moore, Parent Consultant
Homewood CRS



Tammy and her family get ready for their flight.

Please add me to your newsletter mailing list.

Name: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Clip & mail to
Susan Colburn
Children's Rehabilitation Service
2129 East South Boulevard
Montgomery, AL 36116



Kelsi Moore is the 2007 Easter Seals Child Ambassador

Kelsi Moore has been honored as the 2007 Easter Seals Child Ambassador. Kelsi receives speech, occupational and physical therapy services from Easter Seals Pediatric Rehab in Alabaster. She served as Honorary Ambassador at the Easter Seals “Walk With Me” event March 10 at Veteran’s Park in Alabaster. On the day of the walk, Kelsi was able to meet the many people who were there to walk with her and to support Easter Seals. She was tickled pink when she was bombarded with requests for autographs and photo ops with the walkers.

Tammy Moore, Parent Consultant
Homewood CRS



Kelsi created this thank you card that was sent to all those who walked with her and supported Easter Seals with their time and contributions.



This photo, taken at the event, was used on the card, and features Kelsi, her favorite doll, Ashley and Billy Ronillo, a physical therapist for CRS in Birmingham.

OPELIKA MIRACLE FIELD

Groundbreaking for the Billy Hitchcock Miracle Field was held on April 25, 2007. Once completed, the field in Opelika will be the world’s largest miracle field. The field, located at West Ridge Park, is hoped to be completed in time for a fall league. After many meetings, fundraisers and prayers, the field is about to become a reality. Plans are also being made for an accessible playground to be located near the field.

This month marked the two year anniversary of the first planning meeting. I remember being asked to attend the meeting by Mr. Jim Allen, a member of the Opelika Lions Club. Mr. Allen is a familiar face to the Department of Rehabilitation Services, as he has been a counselor with Vocational Rehab for almost 25 years. At the meeting we watched a video provided by the Lion’s Club of Moody, Alabama. I was overwhelmed by the idea that my youngest son Brett would be able to play baseball. Baseball should be a part of every child’s life, and this gives so many that opportunity.

Thank you to the wonderful people who have given their support to make this happen.

Mandy Jennings, Parent Consultant
Opelika CRS



Swinging from Summer into Fall Expectations

Are you sad that summer has flown by and school is about to begin? Do you dread the trip to the store to get clothes and school supplies for that first big day of school? I don't know about your house, but mine gets a good case of the whines about this time of year. You heard me correctly, the whines. So, we have found a great way to ease from a summer of activity to a fall of expectation. Things like football games will keep us busy on Friday nights, the county fair will come to town, harvest festivals will take place, and pumpkins will soon decorate our porches were beach balls, flip flops and popsicle wrappers were during the summer. So why not swing into this school year with a new adventure — try volunteering.

Wikipedia defines volunteering as performing or offering a service out of a person's own free will, often without payment. I will go on to add that not only without payment, but without the expectation of payment. The rewards of volunteering cannot be measured with monetary or material items. Not only are there personal rewards, there will be opportunities for fun.

There are many ways to volunteer and Networkforgood.org has four ways you can make a difference, especially for kids. First, look into your heart, asking what cause means the most to you. Is it disaster relief, animals, medicine, food, disability awareness or something else? Second, support a cause you love or have a passion about. The internet is a great resource in finding the charity with which you wish to volunteer. Networkforgood.org has a search space for finding one of over a million charities. Third, there are many ways to help through volunteering no matter your age or location. Fourth, realize that you can make a difference, even enlisting friends and family to help.

You may ask, "How can I help? I am just a kid and can't drive." Here are some ideas for asking your family, friends and neighbors to help with your chosen cause.

- Collect school supplies for your school. The school can then give them to children who may not be able to afford them.
- On birthdays, ask for donations to be given to the cause you have chosen rather than getting gifts for yourself.
- Collect canned food with pop-top lids for a local church to give to the homeless shelters.
- Offer to read books to an elderly neighbor. You could rake their yard or visit with them. Older people love



to talk about when they were young, so practice being a listener, too.

- Make some homemade cookies to send to a soldier serving in Iraq.
- Find a telethon, walkathon, or jumpathon to raise money for your cause. During the school year there will be opportunities to work with teachers in hosting a fundraiser.
- Plant a fall vegetable or flower garden at a nearby church, school or park.
- Pick up trash and debris in your neighborhood or nearby park.
- Talk with libraries, museums, choirs and daycares to find other ways you can help.
- Read or play with your brother or sister, giving your parents time to take a walk.



Volunteering is something your family can do together. Our family collects ink cartridges for a local school. We donate books to a book mobile at Christmas instead of buying gifts for grandparents, who then receive a homemade card telling them what was done in their honor. We help our church in local mission projects, like block parties, stuffing backpacks with school supplies, gathering canned foods and clothes for the food pantry and clothes closet, raking leaves and mowing yards for the elderly, and collecting equipment such as wheelchairs and crutches. I donate scrapbook materials to local support groups. My son, Ethan, collects pop-top lids for epilepsy research.



There is no feeling like giving a gift to someone else or seeing them smile. Doing something as a family or being the one voice in helping another person is making a difference. You can help by visiting www.networkforgood.org and click on *A Kid's Guide to Giving*. Find someone you can help today and create your own fun that will live deep within your heart all year.

Rita Cobbs, Parent Consultant
Huntsville CRS

Backpack Strategies for Parents and Students

Pack It Light, Wear It Right

It's almost time to head back to school! As you and your children get school supplies ready for the new year, please take a few minutes to think about backpacks. School backpacks come in different sizes for different ages. The way your child loads and wears a backpack can cause problems such as an aching back and shoulders, weakened muscles, tingling in the arms, and a stooped posture. Carrying too much weight in a pack or wearing it the wrong way can lead to pain and strain. Don't let these problems follow your child to school this year. Parents can take steps to help children load and wear backpacks the right way to avoid health problems. Choose the right size pack for your child's back as well as one with enough room for necessary school items. Read on for some tips from the American Occupational Therapy Association on packing and wearing backpacks.

Loading a pack:

- Never let a child carry more than 15% of his or her body weight. This means a child who weighs 100 pounds shouldn't wear a loaded school backpack heavier than 15 pounds.
- Load heaviest items closest to the child's back (the back of the pack).
- Arrange books and materials so they won't slide around in the backpack.
- Check what your child carries to school and brings home. Make sure the items are necessary to the day's activities.
- On days the backpack is too loaded, your child can hand carry a book or other item.
- If the backpack is too heavy, consider using a book bag on wheels if your child's school allows it.



Wearing a pack:

- Both shoulder straps should always be worn. Wearing a pack slung over one shoulder can cause a child to lean to one side, curving the spine and causing pain or discomfort.
- Select a pack with well-padded shoulder straps. Shoulders and necks have many blood vessels and nerves that can cause pain and tingling in the neck, arms, and hands when too much pressure is applied.
- Adjust the shoulder straps so that the pack fits snugly to the child's back. A pack that hangs loosely from the back can pull the child backwards and strain muscles.
- Wear the waist belt if the backpack has one. This helps distribute the pack's weight more evenly.
- The bottom of the pack should rest in the curve of the lower back. It should never rest more than four inches below the child's waistline.



If you have any questions, please contact your local CRS office. The physical or occupational therapist can address any specific concerns you may have. Have a safe and wonderful school year!

Julie Preskitt, MCH/OT Program Specialist
Children's Rehabilitation Service

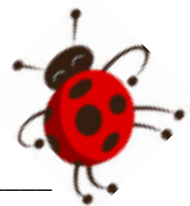
SUMMER FUN

Unscramble the letters to see the fun words of summer.

1. hebac _____
2. amleenod _____
3. cei merac _____
4. tnaivoca _____
5. slabelal _____



6. ygdalbu _____
7. draneg _____
8. wimgmisn _____
9. gainmcp _____
10. cciinp _____



Answers: 1. beach, 2. lemonade, 3. ice cream, 4. vacation, 5. baseball, 6. ladybug, 7. garden, 8. swimming, 9. camping, 10. picnic



CRS Parent Connection

**Children's Rehabilitation Service
Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
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What's Ahead

July 16-17, 2007	Annual Alabama Family Ties Conference; Auburn Hotel & Conference Center; Auburn; Contact: (877) 834-0615 or www.alfamilyties.org
July 18, 2007	Huntsville PAC Meeting; 12:00 p.m.; Contact: Rita Cobbs, (256) 650-1701
July 18, 2007	Voices for Alabama's Children Advocacy Training; ADRS Community Room; Huntsville; 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; Contact: Rita Cobbs, (256) 650-1701
July 19, 2007	Wheelchair Wash; Jackson CRS; Contact: Sharon Beech, (251) 246-4025
July 21, 2007	Wheelchair Wash; ADRS Building; Huntsville CRS; Contact: Rita Cobbs, (256) 650-1701
July 24, 2007	Dothan PAC Meeting; Dothan CRS; Contact: Vonda Reeves, (334) 699-6600
July 24, 2007	Understanding Medicaid Waivers; Tuscaloosa CRS; Contact: Vivian Spears, (205) 759-1279
July 29, 2007	It's a Girl Thing; Mobile CRS; Contact: Penny Strickland, (251) 432-4560
July 31, 2007	Wheelchair Wipeout; Mobile CRS; Contact: Penny Strickland, (251) 432-4560
August 3, 2007	Resource Round-up & Wheelchair Wash; Selma CRS; Contact: Odessa Taylor, (334) 872-8421
August 27-28, 2007	Planning for Disasters for People with Disabilities; Sheraton Hotel; Birmingham; Contact: Natasha Ptomey, nptomey@ms.soph.uab.edu
August 31, 2007	Success Teaching for Children with Spina Bifida; The Bradley Center at Children's Hospital; Birmingham; Contact: Betsy DeCesare, Betsy.DeCesare@chsys.org
August 20-22, 2007	9th Annual Alabama Association for Persons in Supported Employment (APSE) Conference; Riverview Plaza Hotel; Mobile; Contact: Byron White, byron.white@rehab.alabama.gov
October 3-5, 2007	National Respite Conference, "Help is on the Way;" Embassy Suites Hotel; Huntsville; Contact: Linda Lamberth, (256)237-3638 or alabamarespite@aol.com
November 14-16, 2007	Early Intervention and Preschool Conference; Sheraton Hotel; Birmingham; Contact: Jeri Jackson, (205)823-9226 or JBH50@aol.com